

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, between the title of the invention and the first line of the text, insert the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This Application is a Section 371 National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/FR03/03846, filed December 19, 2003 and published as WO 2004/059982 A1 on July 15, 2004, not in English.

FIELD OF INVENTION

Page 1, after line 11, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, after line 5, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, lines 6-27, please replace paragraphs with amended paragraphs:

The invention is One or more embodiments of the invention are aimed especially at overcoming these drawbacks of the prior art.

More specifically, it one or more embodiments have one or more of the following goals:

It is a goal of the invention to provide a technique for the encoding of still or moving images that optimizes the result of the encoding as compared with the prior art techniques.

It is another goal of the invention to implement a technique of this kind that enables a reduction in the volume of the data coming from the encoding, and hence possibly transmitted by a communications network up to the image decoding and restitution device.

It is also a goal of the invention to implement a technique

of this kind that is "scalable", i.e. that adapts to fluctuations of the transmission networks, and especially to variations in the bit rate of such networks.

It is also a goal of the invention to provide a technique of this kind that enables low-bit-rate transmission of the information for the encoding of an image or sequence of images.

It is another goal of the invention to implement such a technique that enables the attaining of high visual quality for the restitution of the encoded image, and especially the zones of discontinuity of this image.

It is also a goal of the invention to provide a technique of this kind that is well suited to the encoding of error images.

It is yet another goal of the invention to provide a technique of this kind that is simple and costs little to implement.

On page 4, lines 1-12, please replace paragraphs with amended paragraphs:

According to an embodiment of the invention, said encoding method implements at least two types of wavelets applied selectively to distinct zones of said image.

Thus, an embodiment of the invention relies on an entirely novel and inventive approach to the encoding of still or moving images, especially the encoding of images of video sequence. Indeed, the inventionembodiment proposes not only to encode images according to the innovative wavelet technique, using especially second-generation wavelets such as those introduced by W. Dahmen ("Decomposition of refinable spaces and applications to operator equations", Numer. Algor., No. 5, 1993, pp. 229-245,) and J. M. Carnicer, W. Dahmen and J.M. Pena ("Local decomposition of refinable spaces", Appl. Comp. Harm. Anal. 3, 1996, pp. 127-

153,), but also to optimize said encoding through the application of different types of wavelets to distinct zones of the image.

On page 7, lines 26-29, please replace paragraph with amended paragraph:

~~The~~An embodiment of the invention also relates to a method for decoding an image with which a wavelet-encoded hierarchical mesh is associated, implementing a selective decoding of distinct zones of said image as a function of information on the type of wavelets assigned to the encoding of the mesh of each of said zones.

On page 8, lines 10-25, please replace paragraphs with amended paragraphs:

~~The~~An embodiment of the invention also relates to a device for encoding an image with which a wavelet-encoded hierarchical mesh is associated, implementing means for the wavelet-encoding of said mesh and comprising means for the selective application of at least two types of wavelets to distinct zones of said image.

The encoding device of the invention therefore comprises the following means:

- means for partitioning the image into at least two zones of distinct natures, the nature of a zone being a function of at least one characteristic parameter of the mesh in the zone;

- means, implemented for each of the zones, for the assigning, as a function of the nature of the zone, of at least one type of wavelet enabling the optimizing of said encoding of said mesh of said zone.

~~The~~An embodiment of the invention also relates to a device for decoding an image with which a wavelet-encoded hierarchical mesh is associated, comprising means for a selective decoding of distinct zones of said image as a function of information on the

type of wavelets assigned to the encoding of the mesh of each of said zones.

On page 9, lines 6-11, please replace paragraph with amended paragraph:

~~The~~An embodiment of the invention also relates to a signal representing an image with which there is associated a wavelet-encoded hierarchical mesh. According to the invention, with at least two types of wavelets having been applied selectively to distinct zones of said image during the encoding, a signal of this kind conveys information on said type of wavelets assigned to the encoding of the mesh of each of said zones.

On page 10, lines 13-16, please replace paragraph with amended paragraph:

Other features and advantages of the invention shall appear more clearly from the following description of a preferred embodiment, given by way of a simple, illustrative and non-restrictive example, and from the appended drawings, ~~of which~~:

Page 10, after line 16, insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 11, lines 5-9, please replace paragraph with amended paragraph:

The general principle of one or more embodiments of the invention is based on the application of different types of wavelets, and especially second-generation wavelets, to different regions of an image, so as to optimize the general encoding of the image, by choosing wavelets of a type whose encoding properties are suited to the content of the zone considered.

Page 11, after line 4, insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENTS